



FAIR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2009

The meeting was held on February 19, 2009. Those present were: Dana Escott, Richard Woods, Troy and Megan Martin, Tom Leo, Sheila Kirkpatrick, Andrea Sarchet, Nancy Matheson, Tara Rhea, and Marilyn Ross.

Minutes from December 18, 2008 were read and approved. Special Meeting Minutes from January 30, 2009, were read and approved.

The bills were presented.

Correspondence: Letter from OSHA was read regarding lead poisoning and discussed. Proposal from Thompson Distributing regarding sponsorship was presented and then given to Sheila.

Public Discussion: Marilyn discussed the book which was received February 19 from Gt. West Engineering regarding the Pavilion, Jeffers, and grandstands. The Pavilion and Jeffers are in pretty good shape, but they need some major maintenance. The grandstands however, the recommendation is that they are unsafe and should not be used for any crowd. They do not meet code with the ramps and they could collapse with a crowd in them. They are a huge liability. Troy wants a letter sent to the commissioners urging them to cease all operations at the grandstands. The grandstands are historical but the costs involved to do repairs would be over \$300,000. To replace the grandstands would be approximately \$600,000. Both amounts are a lot of money. The architects will be sending a letter in writing. We will schedule a public meeting on March 3, 2009 at the Montana Room to hear public comment on this issue.

3RAC: Sheila reported that they aren't going to do any ropings, maybe get 15-20 head of steers for a few community ropings. She mentioned that at their meeting it was discussed that the arena should be worked and watered frequently because of the clay in it so that it doesn't get too hard and then slick when the arena is used.

Campground: Marilyn spoke about gravel she has at her house which could be donated for the parking lot if board wants it, but someone needs to look at it. Sheila asked if the bid for the campground included the gravel on the campground. If so, the Board shouldn't have to pay extra to gravel it. The scope of work stated that the campground should have gravel over it.

Flat track: It is kind of at a stand still. Norm Jensen called Dana and told her that the 501c paperwork had been signed and the bylaws were drafted by his attorney. John Roberts is going to come over and look at the airport ground.

Andrea Sarchet: Presented instead of getting judges for all species, to just try and get Russ Boardman (sp) from Wyoming who will do all species judging and charge \$250 per day plus mileage. They will work on getting a motel donated. Last year the judges costs were approximately \$1,000 and the cost for one judge will be approximately the same or a little less. We will still need a showmanship judge for swine. Troy said this sounds good and he has heard good things about Russ. Tom made motion to use Russ and Richard seconded, passed.

Nancy Matheson: Asked the Board if you put on a series of events in a month, if they could have a break on arena rental. The Board added that we'll add this to the new release agreement with the language "if you are putting on 3 or more events per month, you qualify for \$100.00 per event arena rental". Tom made motion, Richard seconded it, passed. Nancy asked if weather was rainy could that day's rental be waived. The Board said yes.

NRA Rodeo: Sheila presented bids for rodeo stock:

Sparky-Big Circle \$11,700 + 1,000 for announcer (Sheila's brother said he would announce for \$1,000) for a total of \$12,700

Cale Berg-Red Eye \$11,000 + 1,000 for announcer, but they will be putting on Deer Lodge the same weekend which is Cale's home town.

Dick Lyman-Jacobs Rodeo Felt he couldn't do 2 shows and put on a good show.

3RAC will put in the extra \$250 per event like last year for added money if the Board puts in the \$5,000 added money. They won't do goats this year.

The board chose to table voting on rodeo stock because of the grandstand situation.

Riverside Park: Dana reviewed the minutes of 2004/2005 with the Board where they stated that the Board wanted a meter put at Riverside so they could pay their own power. There is a meter out there, but the board is still paying the power. Marilyn said that the budget for Riverside is approximately \$14,000 per year. Tom asked what that covered. The board wants Dana to call Northwestern Energy and get the meter figured out so Riverside can pay their own power.

We need to get a public comment meeting re: grandstands, scheduled for March 3, 2009 at the Montana Room at the high school at 7 pm. Dana will call the school and set it up. Marilyn will put notices in the newspapers. Troy or Dana will talk to Gail Banks re: article about grandstands in paper.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

The next meeting will be March 19, 2009 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dana Escott".

Dana Escott